

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

99-11099

~~SECRET/SENSITIVE~~

27 December 1977

MEMORANDUM FOR

THE SECRETARY OF STATE  
THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE  
THE ATTORNEY GENERAL  
✓ THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

SUBJECT: Summary of Conclusions of SCC(I) Meeting,  
21 December 1977

Attached is the Summary of Conclusions of the SCC(I) meeting on  
21 December 1977 on the Horn of Africa.

  
Zbigniew Brzezinski

Attachment

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COPY NO. 5

(EXCLUDED FROM AUTOMATIC DECLASSIFICATION)

NSC

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NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

SECRET/SENSITIVE

21 December 1977

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Summary of Conclusions, SCC(I) Meeting, 21 December 1977,  
3: 30-4: 45 p.m., White House Situation Room

PARTICIPANTS:

State:

Cyrus Vance  
Warren D. Christopher  
Richard Moose

CIA:

William W. Wells  
Robert Bowie  
William Parmenter

Defense:

Harold Brown  
David E. McGiffert  
General George Brown (JCS)  
Lt. Gen. W.Y. Smith (JCS)

Justice:

Frederick D. Baron  
Kenneth Bass

NSC:

Zbigniew Brzezinski (Chairman)  
David Aaron  
Paul B. Henze (Notetaker)

The meeting was devoted entirely to discussion of the current situation in the Horn of Africa and its implications for U.S. policy. During the first 25 minutes CIA representatives summarized currently available intelligence on the Soviet Airlift, the military situation in Ethiopia, Ethiopian and Somali military capabilities and the Ethiopian political situation. At the end of this presentation, Dr. Brzezinski directed the intelligence community to give high priority to collection of information on all these subjects and to analysis deriving from it--in particular Somali capabilities and foreign support.

The next 40 minutes were devoted to discussion of the implications of Horn developments for U.S. policy, their potential impact on larger issues in U.S.-Soviet relations, and possible courses of action the United States could consider to keep the situation from deteriorating further and cause developments to move in directions more favorable to our basic interests. In anticipation of a more focused meeting on these subjects in January with, hopefully, more information available, Dr. Brzezinski suggested that several subjects be further studied, with discussions meanwhile at Working Group level if necessary:

Zbigniew Brzezinski

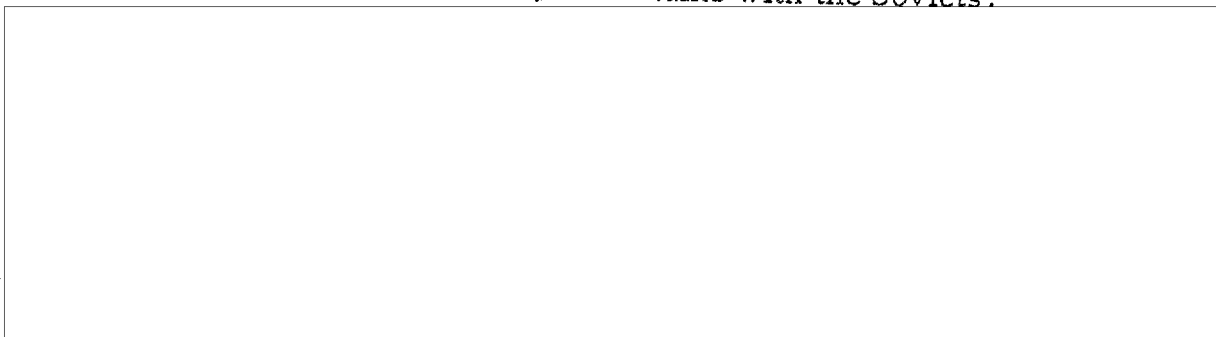
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- the stability of the Mengistu government and the character of alternate leadership groups.
- the current and projected military balance between the Ethiopians and the Somalis.
- the role of PDRY and ways of influencing it.
- possibilities for promoting serious negotiations between the Ethiopians and the Somalis.
- new diplomatic initiatives in Africa and Europe.
- means of denying the Soviets an opportunity to consolidate their position in Ethiopia.
- possibilities for direct, frank talks with the Soviets.



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**EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT**  
**Routing Slip**

TO:

		ACTION	INFO	DATE	INITIAL
1	DCI		✓		
2	DDCI		✓		
3	D/DCI/IC				
4	DDS&T				
5	DDI				
6	DDA				
7	DDO	✓			
8	D/DCI/NI		✓		
9	GC		✓		
10	LC				
11	IG				
12	Compt				
13	D/Pers				
14	D/S				
15	DTR				
16	A/DCI/PA				
17	AO/DCI				
18	C/IPS				
19	DCI/SS				
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SUSPENSE		Date			

Remarks:

Executive Secretary  
*28/Dec*  
Date

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